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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT

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East Germany

DATE DISTR. 21 December 1954

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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1. In general, since there are no specific East German standards, it is impossible for any of them to be related to USSR standards. East German standards in part are based on DIN standards, and these cannot all be maintained in East Germany. The German Office for Material and Goods Testing (DAMW -- Deutsches Amt fuer Material und Warenpruefung) can create its own quality standards in cases where East Germany cannot meet DIN standards. In such cases, the goods are manually marked with DIN standards plus an indication of how they vary from this standard. In general, DIN standards are still accepted. Some of them have attained legal status, because the standards have been incorporated in laws giving specifications for materials. It has been said that GOST standards are not accepted, because they are not readily available to German manufacturing circles. Some GOST standards are identical with old DIN standards, because some GOST standards were, in part, based on DIN standards when they were developed.

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2. There are no East German handbooks on standards, because the DIN standards are generally accepted. There are standards known as TAN (Technische Arbeits-Normen) which apply to individual plants only. They do not apply to quality or other specifications for materials produced, but rather to work methods. The TAN for one enterprise as a rule do not apply to another enterprise of the same type of industry.

3. The recommendations for standards may or may not be accepted by the East German State Planning Commission, as the latter body sees fit.

4. The DNA is concerned with standards of production of goods that have wide use. Many of its standards are used in the shipbuilding and locomotive construction. Otherwise, its standards pertain to smaller parts such as screws, nuts, and small standardized machine parts, as well as industrial drawings. It is beginning to develop thread gauges according to the uniform screw thread standards which, in part, are based on the standards of the International Standards Organization. It has no interest in work methods, industrial management, financial management or labor conditions.

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5. There is no connection between Soviet Authorities and the DNA. The East German Government functions as the only industrial entity in East Germany and as a member of the DNA it can request that the DNA prepare studies on standardization in certain fields. It is possible, of course, that Soviet authorities may prevail upon the East German Government to make such requests. However, no evidence has been found that this has occurred.

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6. Hungary, Poland and Rumania also have national standards committees.

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7. There is no relationship between the Deutsche Wirtschaftsrat Council for Economic Mutual Assistance (CEMA).

8. The DNA has no standards for brown coal briquettes. It is possible that the DAMW has [REDACTED] briquette [REDACTED]

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Comment: Deutsche Industrie-Normen (DIN)

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